



# GSL Online

Montana's premiere  
student loan  
publication

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www.mgslp.org/800-537-7508

## PERSON SEARCH

MGSLP's portal is now enhanced by the new online service "Person Search." This new service provides instant access to real-time financial aid information. Person Search allows you to search for a student or parent by last name or Social Security number. "We are so excited about this new feature because it offers easy and convenient look up of a student's financial aid information and will be of great value to our schools" said Product Support Specialist, Carie Kelly. Schools using FASTAwards have the option of a view only feature that could be utilized by counselors and the admissions office. Person Search also gathers information from MGSLP products, including ScholarNet® and the FAST products, and also from Mapping Your Future. In addition, once a financial aid professional is at the portal an array of reports are available on demand. If you have any questions or comments, contact Carie Kelly at 800-537-7508 or [ckelly@mgslp.state.mt.us](mailto:ckelly@mgslp.state.mt.us)

## NEW FACE LIFT FOR SCHOLAR NET

This month MGSLP is announcing the debut of an updated, modernized version of ScholarNet. Despite all of the cosmetic changes, you will still notice that all of the functions are intact. What has changed is the overall appearance. We've incorporated new colors and fine-tuned other visual elements to make the interface more appealing. For any questions or comments, please contact Carie Kelly @ 1-800-537-7508 or [ckelly@mgslp.state.mt.us](mailto:ckelly@mgslp.state.mt.us).

## FOCUS ON FINANCIAL AID



This month we highlight Financial Aid Counselor Martha Thompson. Martha works for Rocky Mountain College in Billings. Martha is a Wisconsin native and has worked in financial aid for over 14 years. When asked what she likes most about working in financial aid Martha says, "helping the students and getting to know their personalities really makes the job enjoyable."

Martha says she is continually impressed by the quality of web-based products that make it easier for schools to process financial aid packages. Martha has two grown children in college. She enjoys boating and water-skiing. She also loves the beauty of the Bighorn Canyon.

## MGSLP FILMS TV/RADIO SPOT

This month MGSLP filmed a public service announcement with Governor Brian Schweitzer at the Helena College of Technology. The spot promotes the Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship program. In the ad with the governor is scholarship recipient Cyrus Malkin. The spot will air on television and radio stations state-wide beginning in January.



WE WISH YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT MGSLP

## THE DIRECTORS DEN

As 2007 begins, MGSLP will be concentrating on the Montana legislative session. We are working closely with the Governor's office to clean up the Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship Program. Our goal is twofold: to increase overall funding and to make the program easier to administer. While schools will still be required to report award results, we think you will like the new version of the bill. We are also working on a new, teacher loan forgiveness bill that would forgive up to \$12,000 of federal loans if approved.

Although not a Montana legislative issue, the MUS Honor Scholarship is also likely to change beginning in 2008. Total awards will drop from about 285 to roughly 200 and recipients will compete statewide. Montana high schools are generally not in favor of the proposed changes, but they are necessary to bring the Honor Scholarship in line with the Regents' new strategic plan.

Montana has a new Senator and MGSLP will be reaching out to Jon Tester to make sure he's aware of the work we do. Montana's legislative delegation has a history of supporting higher education and, no doubt, Senator Tester will carry on this tradition.

*Bruce Marks, Director*

## SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

It's hard to believe that fall semester has come and gone. MGSLP, administrator of the Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship and the Montana University System Honor Scholarship among others, is already gearing up for spring semester. In the not to distant future we will disburse spring semester scholarship funds to eligible campuses. The Governor's Merit At-Large scholarship application will be available to complete on-line starting January 2, 2007. The deadline for both the Governor's Merit and Merit At-Large scholarship is March 31, 2007. The Montana University System Honor Scholarship application deadline is January 31st. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at [jkirkpatrick@mgslp.state.mt.us](mailto:jkirkpatrick@mgslp.state.mt.us) or Tana Craigle at [tcraigle@mgslp.state.mt.us](mailto:tcraigle@mgslp.state.mt.us) or call 1-800-537-7508.

*-Janice Kirkpatrick, Scholarship Coordinator*

## CONGRATULATIONS JANICE!

MGSLP's Janice Kirkpatrick recieved the Governor's Award for Excellence in Performance. Janice was recognized by Governor Brian Schweitzer at a ceremony this fall.



Questions or comments? Contact: Lyndsay Bruno at  
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